

Smaa - Application No: 08/833,342

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

Disclosed herein is improvement of computer-controlled animated talking toy system in which novel methods and apparatus are provided to coordinate and control the sound and animation of a toy figure. Said toy figure has at least one articulated movable portion for providing animation with the actuation thereof provided by a multi-phase electro-mechanical drive device disposed therein which is feasible for digital control by a multimedia computer connected thereto. An audio output device is disposed within the body of said toy figure and is connected to and controlled by the sound subsystem of said computer. The animation of the toy is controlled by said computer according to detailed text content of the toy's audio speech. In order to synchronize the sound and animation of the toy figure, said computer is programmed to create digital-control signals for transmitting to said drive-control circuitry based on predefined rules of detecting the sequences and positions of vowel letters in the toy's speech synthesized by the computer, therefore the actuation of the toy's movable body part can be synchronized with the playback of audio speech without predefining the text content of said speech.